

PARKS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Willis Tucker Park

6705 Puget Park Drive Snohomish Washington

Tuesday May 12, 2020 3:00pm – 5:00pm (Zoom meeting)

10. Call to Order

10.1. John Ewald called the meeting to order. Jeremy Husby was hosting the Zoom meeting. A quorum was present.

20. Roll Call

20.1. Voting Board Members –

John Dewhirst (Dist. 3)
David Divoky (At Large)
John Ewald (At Large) (Chair)
Mike Farrell (At Large)
Ting Liu (At Large)
Bob McCarty (Dist. 5) (Vice Chair)

x
x
x
x
x

Darrell Olson (At Large)
Robert Putnam (Dist. 1)
Shawn Tobin (At Large)
Steve Yandl (Dist. 4) (Notes)
Vacant (Dist. 2)

x

20.2. Staff (Parks and other County Departments or agencies) – Jeremy Husby, Russ Bosanko, Tom Teigen, Sharon Swan, Tammy Dunn (ex officio), Tyler Allen (Sports), Justin Smith (Sports).

20.3. Guests – Jamie Holland.

30. Review and Approval of Minutes of February 2020 meeting

30.1. No changes, Minutes were unanimously approved.

40. Public Hearings/Meetings

50. Oral Requests from the Audience/Correspondence

50.1. John Ewald commented that he had suggestions from visitors to the picnic shelter at Lake Roesiger asking for some sort of information plaque regarding the shelter and background.

60. General Business

60.1. Boards and Commissions Training – Follow-up

60.2. May 12, 2020 Field Trip – Rescheduled for September 8, 2020 – Esperance, Cavalero, Flowing Lake. Leave Willis Tucker Park at 2pm, hopefully return by 5:45pm.

60.3. 2020 Proposed County Council Ordinance # 20-001 – Extend a 50% reduction in parking/boat launch fees for those 62 years of age or older at Flowing Lake, Kayak Point, River Meadows, Wenberg and Wyatt. Approximate reduction of \$30,000 in collections for annual parking/boat launch fees. The County Council decided to send this item back to the Park Advisory Board for their review and possible action.

60.3.1. After discussion, Parks Advisory Board felt the plan had merit but with the budget challenges resulting from COVID-19 restrictions, it is not an appropriate time to be giving discounts. The plan should be tabled and revisited once the revenue picture normalizes.

70. Reports from the Staff/Status Reports

70.1. COVID-19 impacts – Consistent with the Governor's 4 phase plan:

70.1.1. Phase 1 – County Park and Trail entry gates were re-opened, playgrounds, picnic shelters, permanent restrooms continue to be closed using yellow barricade tape, orange construction fencing, signage, to remind the public to adhere to social distancing criteria. McCollum Pool closed for summer. August State Fair in Monroe cancelled. Evergreen Speedway closed. Spray Pad closed for now. Camping cancelled through the end of May. All large events, i.e. fun runs, etc. cancelled.

Tag line, “If you drove your car, you came too far”.

70.1.2. Phase 2 – Outdoor recreation with fewer than 5 people outside your household (i.e. camping, beaches, etc.). New Construction, etc.

70.1.3. Phase 3 – Outdoor group re: sports activities (5-50 people, recreation facilities at less than 50% capacity i.e. public pools etc.).

70.1.3.1. Allow gatherings with no more than 50 people

70.1.3.2. Indoor gyms – less than 50% capacity

70.1.3.3. Government offices open...telework remains strongly encouraged.

70.1.4. Phase 4 – Resume public interactions with physical distancing

70.1.4.1. Resume all recreational activities.

70.1.4.2. Allow gatherings with more than 50 people

70.1.4.3. Concert venues

70.1.4.4. Large sporting events

70.1.4.5. Resume unrestricted staffing of worksites but continue to practice physical distancing and good hygiene.

70.1.5. John Dewhirst inquired about the reasoning behind keeping permanent restrooms closed after parks open.

70.2. Planning/Engineering/Design/Construction Projects

70.2.1. Sharon Swan spoke about the new Visioning Document.

70.2.1.1. This is a public process that runs on an eight-year cycle.

70.2.1.2. Members of the public had been invited to complete surveys; many have been received. A survey directed more toward County Staff is available and board members were encouraged to complete the survey and contact Sharon if we felt other information should be provided for the planning process.

70.2.1.3. Incorporate information from granting agencies.

70.2.1.4. Ensure compliance with Washington Administrative Code (WAC).

70.2.2. Covid restrictions/compliance was not bad at Haller and Pilchuck.

70.2.3. As reported in the media, Evergreen State Fair and the Speedway are closed for 2020.

70.2.4. Status of Wyatt County Park (renamed back to original name, Davies Beach) – Officially transferred 2/29/2020 to City of Lake Stevens.

70.2.5. Esperance County Park – Pictures provided

70.2.6. Kayak Point Golf Course/Public - Private Partnership RFP(4th) – Open 1/31/2020 to 2/28/2020. Possible RFP evaluations Wednesday, March 19, 10am – 12pm – Update from Russ Bosanko

70.2.6.1. Received 11 proposals for various county park properties – f of the 11 relate to the Kayak Point Golf Course Property specifically.

70.2.6.2. Shannon from purchasing has been tasked with additional duties which has limited activity on the Kayak evaluation process.

70.2.7. Carousel Ranch County Park – getting close to 90% plans, possibly go out to bid late 2020 or Spring 2021.

70.2.8. McCollum County Park Community Transit park and ride improvements. Russ is working on new maintenance and operation agreement with Community Transit. Potential Farmer's Market via RFP proposal. McCollum Pool closed for summer due to COVID-19 restrictions.

70.2.9. Possible County-wide Parks and Trails Bond, November 2022.

70.2.10. Executive Horse Council of Snohomish County – They had their first Zoom meeting.

70.2.11. Whitehorse Community Park – Camping improvements go out to bid late May early June with possible construction later in Summer/Fall. MOU with Town of Darrington, Darrington School District, Darrington Youth Athletic Association and Snohomish County Parks.

70.2.11.1. Sharon Swan reported that first the equestrian campground would be completed, then tent sites. Ballfield renovations come later.

70.2.12. Veteran's acknowledgement on Centennial Trail – Looking to relocate project possibly at county campus in Everett.

70.2.13. Lighting one (1) field at Willis Tucker Park with Mill Creek Little League.

70.3. Events

80. Park Director's Time (Tom Teigen with help from Russ Bosanko).

80.1. Parks Personnel Changes resulting from COVID-19 impact.

80.1.1. Hire no park, Fair Park seasonal staff. Shift several of the Fair Park Maintenance staff to assist with maintenance duties at large regional parks, i.e. Kayak Point County Park, Lord Hill Regional Park, Willis Tucker Community Park, etc.

80.1.2. Tom spoke highly of the new hire as communications director coming to us from Utah, Rose Smith.

80.1.2.1. Strong background in messaging and communications in general.

80.1.2.2. Strong background in graphics.

90. Messages from the Board. Around the Table

90.1. John Dewhirst

90.1.1. John has concerns on the financial health of Parks, other county agencies and our community as we work through COVID-19 restrictions and health impacts.

90.2. David Divoky

90.2.1. David also expressed concerns on the financial struggles to be faced by agencies and individuals.

90.3. Tammy Dunn

90.3.1. Tammy spoke about the huge hit on tourism, hotels and retail from the COVID-19 restrictions and the domino effect that has on our community.

90.3.2. Anxious to get kids back out to play safely and how that process will phase in as restrictions are lifted.

90.4. John Ewald

90.4.1. Commented that the Flowing Lake campground improvements thus far look spectacular.

90.5. Mike Farrell

90.6. Ting Liu

90.6.1. Ting shared upsetting observations at area parks and trails where there is a lack of compliance by many on social distancing.

90.7. Bob McCarty

90.8. Darrell Olson

90.9. Robert Putnam

90.10. Shawn Tobin

90.11. Steve Yandl

90.11.1. Commented on lack of social distancing compliance at an HOA tennis court that tends to suggest people when excited and engaged in sports might lose focus on personal safety regarding infection spread.

90.12. Jamie Holland

90.12.1. Jamie shared that some bmx facilities were renting tracks by the hour to family groups to satisfy demand while still following the dictates of COVID-19 restrictions.

100. Adjournment

ADA Notice: Snohomish County facilities are accessible. Accommodations for persons with disabilities, sign language interpreters and communications materials in alternate form will be provided upon advance request. Please make arrangements one week prior to the hearing by calling the Park Department office, 425-388-6602.